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Dated: September 22, 2003 Signature:

(Anthony A. Laurentano)

Docket No.: SIW-020  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Yosuke FUJII, *et al.*

Application No.: 10/010051

Confirmation No.: 7833

Filed: November 9, 2001

Art Unit: 1745

For: FUEL CELL

Examiner: J. Maples

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Examiner sets forth on page 2 of the Office Action that the present invention can be divided into two separate patentably distinct groups: Group I, encompassing claims 1-4, which are drawn to a first fuel cell (classified in Class 429, Subclass 34); and Group II, encompassing claims 5-22, which are drawn to a second fuel cell/gas channel plate (classified in Class 429, Subclass 39). The Examiner states that the Group II fuel cell/gas channel includes gas channels that merge, which feature is not part of the Group I fuel cell.

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed August 22, 2003, Applicants hereby provisionally elect the invention of Group I, encompassing claims 1 through 4, for continued examination in this case.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. SIW-020, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.


Application No.: 10/010051

Docket No.: SIW-020

Dated: September 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By



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